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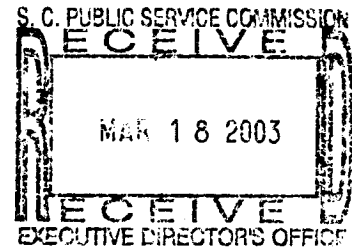
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ROBERT D. COBLE
MEMBER

DIRECT DIAL
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March 18, 2003

The Honorable Gary E. Walsh
Executive Director
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive
Columbia, South Carolina 29211



Re: Docket No. 97-239-C: Proceeding to Establish Guidelines for an Intrastate
Universal Service Fund

Dear Gary:

I am writing on behalf of ALLTEL South Carolina, Inc. ("ALLTEL") to request an extension of time in which to file tariffs associated with the Universal Service Fund. The Guidelines and Administrative Procedures for the State Universal Service Fund that were approved by the Commission, in its Order No. 2001-996 in the above docket, provides that an incumbent LEC receiving USF support may file tariff reductions to remove implicit subsidies and request additional USF support on April 1 of each year. ALLTEL respectfully requests that the Commission grant ALLTEL a 30-day extension of time to file tariffs and accompanying cost data. Thus, to the extent ALLTEL wishes to file a tariff and cost data such a filing would be made no later than May 1, 2003.

As you are aware the Commission has not issued an Order approving the filings made last year in this docket. ALLTEL believes the Commission is likely to issue an Order on those filings by May 1, 2003. Should the Commission issue an Order during that time it would perhaps provide additional guidance concerning such filings. Further, granting a 30-day extension should not significantly impair the Commission's ability to implement additional USF funding, to the extent any such additional funding is requested, by October 1, 2003.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "RDC", written over the typed name.

Robert D. Coble

RDC/lwb

NPCOL1:621670.1-LT-(RDC) NEWFILE-NEWFILE

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March 18, 2003
Page 2

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Page 3

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ALLTEL South Carolina, Inc.
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Columbia, South Carolina 29210

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a copy of the foregoing letter to The Honorable Gary E. Walsh, dated March 14, 2003, requesting a 30-day extension of time to file tariffs and accompanying cost data, regarding Docket No. 97-239-C: Proceeding to Establish Guidelines for an Intrastate Univesal Service Fund, has been served upon the following counsel of record by placing the same in the United States mail, first class postage prepaid, addressed to the following as shown below this 18th day of MARCH, 2003.

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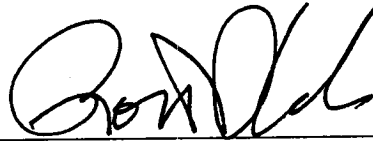
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